



2007

One World One Promise

Gifts for Peace



The Concept: Every Scout in the world making a contribution towards peace to mark the 100th anniversary of Scouting.

The subject of peace – specifically peace education - has always been a fundamental part of Scouting. Scouting recognises the need for renewed action to combat the problems which we all face; chief amongst these is the need for a more peaceful world achieved through a culture of peace, and not simply the absence of war.

By focusing on the development of the individual and by striving towards an ideal of fraternity and understanding, Scouting already plays a tremendous, although indirect, role in the promotion of peace at all levels. This 100th anniversary is an excellent time to celebrate the work which has been done by Scouting in the cause of peace and to demonstrate publicly our commitment, as a Movement, to creating a more peaceful world and linking with others having similar aims.

It was decided by the 36th World Scout Conference in Thessoloniki that during 2007 each National Scout Organization should present a Gift for Peace and that these gifts should be the result of work accomplished by young people since 2005.

It will be an enormous achievement when, in 2007, every single Scout in the worldwide Movement can say what has been done for peace.

Gifts for Peace



What is a Gifts for Peace project?

Gifts for Peace is a key part of Scouting's worldwide centenary. Each National Scout Organization is to propose and lead a national project – which could be composed of many parts - involving Scouts from all age groups for at least one year (September 2005 onwards).

The Gifts for Peace should meet the following criteria:

- The Gifts for Peace should meet real needs and make a difference to the community. Scout organizations should carefully identify these needs.
- They should respond to needs that are important to young people, and while scale is not important, they should address issues that affect young people directly rather than indirectly.
- The Gifts for Peace should reach out to people with whom Scouting has not traditionally worked. Scouts should try to 'bridge the gap' into a community.
- Gifts for Peace may take many forms and may build on previous projects.

Working areas:

As the topic 'peace' is an incredibly large area, specific working areas have been identified that are relevant to young people and that would truly constitute a valuable contribution to world peace. These areas are:

1. *Creating a more peaceful world.*

Peace and conflict resolution, including problem solving, negotiation and mediation skills, anger management.

2. *Challenging prejudice.*

Identifying and challenging prejudices and stereotypes, for example: racism, religious intolerance, bullying and gender.

3. *Encouraging greater solidarity.*

Solidarity with underprivileged groups, for example: refugees, internally displaced people, asylum seekers, street children and ethnic minority groups.

You will find examples of Gifts for Peace for these working areas in this document.

2007



Gifts for Peace and the Strategy for Scouting

Gifts for Peace is an opportunity for organizations to integrate the 2007 celebrations with the Strategy for Scouting. Each Scout organization has its own particular needs and priorities for taking the Strategy forward. Each will also have its own unique opportunities for developing peace projects, relating to the current situation in the country, and its own history and culture.

It is important when developing a Gifts for Peace project that it meets the real needs that have been identified by the Scout organizations and is consistent with Scouting's purpose. So, in addition to contributing to a better world through Gifts for Peace, each Scout organization can contribute to its own development, improving the quality and visibility of Scouting in their country. At the dawn of the second century, Scouting in all countries should be seen playing a key role in the non-formal education of young people.

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STRATEGY
ACHIEVING
OUR MISSION

Gifts for Peace



Time Frame for National Scout Organizations

2004 to August 2005

- Receive Gifts for Peace information in the Centenary Information Folder at the regional conferences, and in the post.
- Begin a dialogue at various levels to gather ideas for projects. At national level decide on one project, or a general theme, which may enable groups or areas to implement a variety of projects within the theme.
- When planning projects consider the financial, partnership, communication and marketing strategies as well as the development of a clearly defined programme for each age section.

September 2005 – World Scout Conference, Tunisia

Come to the 37th World Scout Conference in Tunisia, September 2005, to share your organization's plans for Gifts for Peace.

- There will be a special display showing the title of each National Scout Organization's Gift for Peace.
- More information can be displayed on each NSO exhibition.
- Produce a written report, in English or French, to share with the 2007 Task Force and other NSOs at the Conference. This could note any particular partnerships, marketing and the programme for all sections.
- Consider using the Conference to establish partnerships with other countries.

September 2005 to December 2005

- Continue with the preparations to launch your organisation's Gifts for Peace.

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January 2006 to December 2006

- The project should be up and running by January 2006 so that it has a minimum duration of 12 months.
- Throughout this period it is also important that the progress of each project is closely monitored and accomplishments documented with facts and pictures. Be sure to get as much publicity as possible.

Throughout 2007

- Gifts for Peace results should be documented into various formats so that they can be exhibited and presented throughout 2007 and beyond. Detailed booklets, portable exhibitions, promotional material, websites and PowerPoint presentations are just some of the formats that should be considered.
- All opportunities should be seized to highlight each and every Gift for Peace on a local, national, regional and international level.
- Present the Gifts for Peace to the country leaders (Head of State, Prime Minister, government, parliament etc) on the 1 August 2007, to encourage them to build on the work that the Scouts have started, to gain recognition for the project and support for Scouting.
- The Gifts for Peace results will be shown collectively at the 21st World Scout Jamboree in the United Kingdom (27 July to 8 August 2007). These projects should also be displayed at other significant events and locations.
- World Scout Jamboree contingents will also be encouraged to display their Gifts for Peace at the 21st World Scout Jamboree in their contingent headquarters.

Gifts for Peace



Examples of Gifts for Peace:

1. *Anti-violence and conflict resolution: El Salvador*

Violence amongst young people is a serious problem in many places. Often it is driven by distinctions of race, religion, social class, and wealth. Scouting can help to ease these tensions and reduce violence. One example is in El Salvador.

Street fights, rape and murder were on the increase, and the community was shocked when bombs started to be thrown into school-yards. The educational authorities reacted by trying to punish those involved in each incident, but had little success in preventing the problems.

Working with child-behaviour experts, the Scout Association of El Salvador conducted a study to determine why young people join gangs. What are they looking for? They also asked Scouts why they joined Scouting. The answers were remarkably similar. They concluded that Scouting might have something to offer the young people who were being drawn into violent gangs. They tried an experiment: they invited students from two schools with rival gangs to come for a holiday camp: an adventure, fun, a chance to get away from home, and it was free. Most had never been out of the city.

The invitation was regarded with suspicion by many gang members and they would not accept it, however their opinions started to change when those who attended the first camp returned to school!

At the camp the students from both schools got to know each other. They had fun together, they learned together, and they had to work together to put food on the table, organise activities, etc. They were working together in small groups called "solidarity brigades". Scouts were also members of the brigades; every effort was made to avoid an "us and them" segregation. This was a camp to integrate people, to create tolerance for diversity. Back at school, attitudes started to change as the participant's enthusiasm spread; they had a new horizon in life that wasn't defined only by the school they attended.

Methods and Achievements:

- From April 2001 to January 2004, five camps were held and attended by a total of 800 non-Scouts, involving some 200 schools, each with a student population of about 600. (Some students have decided to become Scouts, but that was not the main objective of the project.)
- The camp programme focused on five modules: Integration, Teamwork, Brigade Life, Learning Useful Skills, and Community Service.
- Back in school, students form 'Brigades' composed of those who attended the camps, and those who did not, thereby creating a multiplying effect. The Brigade organises social activities, inter-school dialogue, community service projects, etc. About 4,000 students are members of these brigades.
- In addition, 950 academic staff have been trained in techniques of non-formal education (Scouting!), and gained experience in conflict-resolution techniques.
- According to reports of the National Civil Police, the participation of students in violent events has reduced by 80 percent since 2001.



2. Solidarity and Scouting with Minority groups: Slovakia

Every country has a mixture of ethnic, religious, cultural and social groups. Young people in those groups do not always have the opportunity to have the benefits Scouting can provide.

Scouting has a responsibility to ensure its membership is open to young people from different backgrounds and different parts of society. It is probably amongst the few organisations and institutions that have the capacity to achieve this successfully, since it works with young people in their formative years. Here is one example:

The Roma, sometimes known as Gypsies, live in many parts of Europe. They have a long cultural tradition, and their own language. They face many problems. Often they are not integrated into the society in which they are living. They face poverty, discrimination, fear of non-Roma people, poor education, and unemployment. Roma children often face a bleak future.

These are some of the reasons why Roma parents wanted to start Scouting some years ago. An independent Scout association was created and various efforts were made to spread the programme through Roma communities. A breakthrough came when Roma Scout leaders met with the national Scout organization in Slovakia, Slovensky Skauting, to find ways of working together for mutual benefit. The effort has taken time, but now the programme for Roma Scouts is part of the Slovak Scout organization and it is paying dividends.

Key actions and achievements:

- Creation of a Scout programme suited to the needs of Roma children.
- Building a network of both Roma and non-Roma volunteers to work in the field to create new Scout groups, led by positive local leaders.
- Training support for Roma leaders. (A special project of the Rovers.)
- Activities for all Scouts in Slovakia – Roma and non-Roma.
- Special activities for non-Scout children (Roma and non-Roma) to learn about responsibility, cultural tolerance. (About 800 have participated thus far.)
- Roma Scout leaders now are able to participate in national and international Scouting events and training opportunities.
- Schools and teachers have said that among the Roma who are Scouts, attendance and behaviour at school has improved greatly, along with their academic grades. The number of students continuing their studies at secondary schools has also risen.
- Parents of Roma Scouts have observed that their behaviour has changed for the better, with greater respect towards their parents, willingness to help around the home as well as in the community.
- There are 651 new members, and as a result Slovensky Skauting in Slovakia has seen a five percent increase in total membership.

Gifts for Peace



3. Transcending racial hatred: Education for Peace in the Great Lakes Area (Africa)

The crisis in Burundi in October 1993, the genocide in Rwanda (1994) and the two "liberation" wars in the Democratic Republic of Congo (formerly Zaire) have completely destabilised the region, leaving a procession of refugees, millions of displaced people, famine, family disintegration and complete disruption of social life. These wars have created barriers between neighbouring countries, between people in the same country, the same tribes, the same ethnic groups and even within families.

The young people and children who constitute at least 60 percent of the population of the sub-region are amongst the first to suffer as a result of the violence. Many of them are involved in the violence, having been manipulated by adults. In the search for peace in the region it is important that work is undertaken with these young people and that they are involved in a positive way if peace is to be achieved.

To deal with this situation National Scout Associations from the sub-region, organised since 1996 into an "Informal Co-ordinating Body of Scouting in the Great Lakes", have been extensively involved in the restoration of peace through the integration of an educational section on peace education and non-violence into their youth programme. This is achieved through the promotion of positive values, a culture of peace, and education for the management and resolution of conflicts through non-violent means.

Working together:

A charter was established in June 1996, and ratified the same year by the World Scout Conference in Oslo. This charter reflects the commitment of the three Scout Associations of the Great Lakes to work towards the return to and preservation of peace in the sub-region.

The objectives are centred on three essential areas:

1. Peace Education

- To guide young people towards the reestablishment of human values, helping them to develop an understanding of tolerance, living together, justice and democracy.
- To help young people assume an active and constructive role in their community.

2. Communication and Information

- To help young people to analyse information, to develop a culture of sharing and open-mindedness.
- To help young people to consider their community and its composition with both reflection and analysis.

3. Culture

- To reinforce the links between the youth of the three countries by giving them the time to talk to each other and express themselves culturally.
- To promote peaceful cohabitation and the acceptance of differences through a series of national and international events.
- To make the activities available to other youth organisations with the aim of promoting inter-cultural exchanges.



Significant Achievements:

- The twinning of Scout Groups on the borders of Rwanda, Congo and Burundi.
- The formation of a contingent of 24 Rwandan, Congolese and Burundian Scouts to attend the African Jamboree in Nairobi, at a time when it was very difficult to get the leaders and politicians of these three countries to meet around the same table.
- The production of a sub-regional bulletin dealing with themes related to the return to and promotion of peace.
- Leader's training seminars on the subject of non-violence and the integration of peace activities into the youth programme of the three associations.
- Working camps to build houses for the homeless and war refugees in Burundi, Rwanda and the East of the Democratic Republic of Congo.
- Support, reception and reintegration of repatriated settlers and refugees of war in the three countries of the sub-region.
- Supervision of children in the refugee camps and of other children.
- Organisation of a sub-regional Jamboree for Peace and workshops and follow-up material to document the experiences.

4. Scouting in prisons for young offenders: Hong Kong

For 16 years, The Hong Kong Scout Association has been working with the Cape Collinson Correctional Institution in Hong Kong Island and the Lai King Training Centre in the New Territories, where young offenders are serving prison terms.

A team of volunteer leaders, including World Scout Committee member Herman Hui, have set up Scout Troops in these prisons for the young offenders. The programme that they have established is a real Scout programme, with outdoors activities, skills training, patrol system and leadership development. All of the inmates are offered the Scout programme, but they must join voluntarily. The supervisors report a noted improvement in the inmates' behaviour, in their attention to self-improvement and in their self-confidence. To date 2,000 young people have joined this programme and none have re-offended following their release from the correction centres.

Many countries have problems in working with young people who are marginalised or 'on the edge' and these people often turn to crime. Scouting has the ability to have a positive impact on the lives of those young people, before or after they have been convicted of offences. Where possible, prevention is better than cure. A useful resource to help set up a similar project is the Promising Practices report on 'The Essex Experience' in the United Kingdom.

Gifts for Peace



5. Challenging prejudices, sectarianism, violence and hatred: Citizenship project among Irish Scout Associations

Ireland, a country that was once part of the United Kingdom, is today divided into the Republic of Ireland, an independent state, and Northern Ireland, which remains part of the UK. This situation has divided its citizens along political, religious and class lines, and led to years of conflict, violence and hatred. Indiscriminate bombings, street violence, intimidation and fear became a part of daily life, especially in the 1970's, 80's and 90's. Despite the political advances of recent years and the peace accords, communities in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland remain highly segregated.

Within the context of the troubled history of the island of Ireland, there is a clear need for the community to develop an understanding of the issues and challenges to be faced if permanent peace is to be achieved. The conflict on the island has been eased by a number of solutions: economic investment, industrial development, policing, political courage and, significantly, cross-community/cross-border exchange and confidence building.

Scouting – composed at the time of three organisations, The UK Scout Association, Scouting Ireland SAI and Scouting Ireland CSI (the latter two joined to form a new Scout association, Scouting Ireland, on 1 January 2004) – has been among the organisations spearheading the cross-community and cross-border initiatives. The three associations, with support from the EU programme for Peace and Reconciliation and the International Fund for Ireland, have set up a Scout Citizenship project, an educational programme for all Scout sections. This programme helps Scouts to look at citizenship in their own Scout troop, to learn about stereotypes and prejudice and to accept diversity within their country and community. The educational material helps young people to explore their own communities and cultures before the linking projects are undertaken. For the older age sections the awards are divided into three parts: The Kinship Award, The Partnership Award and The Community Award. Educational material and suggested activities have been developed for each part of the award.

Here is some information on the content of the awards and the learning experienced by the young people.

Level 1: Kinship Award - 4 challenges undertaken by young people within their own Unit

- understanding myself
- understanding my community
- finding out about my country
- finding out about others

Young people explore and learn about:

- Values in today's society and Scout values
- Enjoying the out of doors environment
- Experiencing cultural, sporting and social activities
- Promoting equality – equal opportunities for all
- Exploring our past and looking towards the future
- Finding out about local and national government
- Recognising the diversity of cultures in the world today



Level 2: Partnership Award - 3 challenges undertaken by young people in partnership with their partner Unit

- a cultural or sporting activity
- a new activity for both groups
- a social activity

Young people learn to:

- emphasise the cultures and customs of the North and South
- appreciate the needs of others to express their identity
- learn from each other through new activities
- accept responsibility for their potential role in society
- positively challenge attitudes
- develop meaningful cross-border partnerships

Level 3: Community Award - Venture Scouts from both Units work together to take part in a meaningful citizenship experience in an international setting

Young people learn to:

- Take action to meet the needs of others in an international setting
- Explore how their individual paths are intertwined on a global basis

The programme then details how cross-border and cross-community exchanges can be set up. These take the form of structured workshops to explore identity and culture. The exchanges themselves are designed to be sustainable so that the young people can establish trust, make friends and share experiences. Afterwards, follow-up work is done so that those who have taken part in the exchanges can reflect on what they have learned from the experience. These Irish associations continue to exchange trainers, run joint activities, and organise youth exchange programmes, bringing all sides of the community together regardless of the often-fragile political situation.

This successful programme could be adapted to situations in many parts of the world. Scouting is open to all, boys and girls, young men and young women, without any distinction of origin, race or creed in accordance with the Constitution of the World Organization of the Scout Movement.



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Reference Materials

Documents available to download from www.scout.org

- The reference document **"Scouting and Peace"**
The booklet addresses the question, "What is Scouting's contribution to peace?" The question is examined from a historical perspective, then the main facets of Scouting's contribution to peace education are analysed. (English and French)
- The booklet **"Building Peace together"**
The publication is closely related to "Scouting and Peace", mentioned above. It contains 12 workshops which have been conducted, and refined in successive Global Development Villages at World Scout Jamborees. The 135-page publication can be downloaded in 18 parts, based on the interest of the reader. (English and French)
- **"A billion young people WORKING FOR PEACE for a hundred years"**
Documents relating to the joint project between the World Organization of the Scout Movement and the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts. This project is quite distinct from Gifts for Peace, however it contains useful information about past and present peace projects. (English and French)
- **Strategy For Scouting** documents, especially the sections relating to the strategic priorities of "Adolescents" and "Reaching Out".
- **Strategy "Promising Practices":**
 1. "Programme Sous-Régional d'Education Scoute à la Paix dans la Région des Grands Lacs - Afrique" (French)
 2. "The Essex Experience" (English)
- **"The Bottom Line"** series of documents produced by the World Scout Foundation, in particular:
 1. "Peace takes time... but it can be achieved" (Ireland Citizenship project)
 2. "We were too late last time" (Great Lakes - Africa)
 3. "All of my Scouts are in prison" (Scouting in prisons in Hong Kong)

Please refer to the following documents for more information on the initiatives and activities planned for the 100th anniversary of Scouting in 2007:

- 2007 Information brochure (English and French)
- 2007 flyer (Arabic, English, French, Mandarin, Russian, Spanish)
- 2007 Corporate Identity Kit (English and French)
- Scouting's Sunrise Guidelines and Information document (English and French)
- CD - Centenary Information Pack 1 (October 2003)
- CD - Centenary Information Pack 2 (April 2004)

This material is available from the World Scout Bureau on request or alternatively available to download from the 2007 website, www.scouting2007.org

www.scouting2007.org

This official 2007 website contains additional information on the Centenary plans for 2007, including 2007 resources and detailed information on all of the Centenary activities and events in 2007.